

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00952 111350Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 SY-04 DRC-01 /106 W

----- 110865

R 111200Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8126

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 0952

E.O. 11652/ N/A

TAGS: PINS, BU (SHPETER, HENRICH NATHAN)

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN ESPIONAGE CASE

REF: STATE 121742

1. EMBASSY HAS NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON SHPETER CASE
ALTHOUGH UNDERSTANDING IN DIPLOMATIC CORPS IS THAT
DEATH SENTENCE HAS NOT YET BEEN CARRIED OUT AND CASE IS
BEING APPEALED.

2. DEVELOPMENTS OF THE LAST FEW DAYS INDICATE THAT
SHPETER CASE MAY NOT BE ISOLATED INCIDENT. GERMAN
CITIZEN WHO HAD BEEN MISSING FOR SEVERAL DAYS HAS NOW
BEEN REPORTED ARRESTED ON CHARGES OF ECONOMIC ESPIONAGE,
AS WAS AN AUSTRIAN CITIZEN EARLIER. WHILE NOT DIRECTLY
TIED TO SHPETER CASE, ALL THREE HAVE SPENT EXTENSIVE TIME
IN VIENNA, AND MINISTRY OF INTERIOR MAY HAVE CAST OUT
DRAGNET ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM SHPETER INVESTI-
GATION. FINNISH AMBASSADOR REPORTS THAT TWO BULGARIANS
WHO RECENTLY TOOK PART IN NEGOTIATIONS OF ECONOMIC
AGREEMENT WITH FINLAND HAVE DISAPPEARED, ALLEGEDLY FOR
HAVING PASSED ON INFORMATION OF SENSITIVE NATURE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00952 111350Z

3. RECENT ADMONITION OF STATE COUNCIL ON MAY 28 AGAINST

FALSIFICATION OF PLAN DATA AND MANAGERS WHO DISTRIBUTE BONUSES IN VIOLATION OF LAW MAY ALSO BE PART OF GENERAL TIGHTENING UP IN ECONOMIC SECTOR. BULGARIANS HAVE HAD JUSTLY DESERVED REPUTATION IN SOME QUARTERS OF BEING SUSCEPTIBLE TO UNDER THE TABLE PAYMENTS. RECENT CASES OF SO-CALLED ECONOMIC ESPIONAGE FALL TOGETHER WITH PARTY AND GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE LABOR PRODUCTIVITY AND IMPROVE LABOR DISCIPLINE BY DEMONSTRATING WILLINGNESS TO HAND OUT SEVERE PENALTIES AGAINST VIOLATORS OF "SOCIALIST LAW AND MORALITY."

4. NOTHING ON SHPETER CASE OR WESTERN REACTION TO SENTENCING HAS APPEARED IN BULGARIAN MEDIA, AND WE WOULD NOT EXPECT PRESS NECESSARILY TO CARRY NOTICE OF EITHER APPEAL OR CARRYING OUT OF SENTENCE. GOB SOURCES HAVE HAD NOTHING TO SAY ON CASE. UNDERSTAND WEST GERMAN PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT SHPETER HAS A BROTHER IN THE US. IS THIS CORRECT? WE WILL OF COURSE CONTINUE TO BE ALERT TO DEVELOPMENTS BUT BELIEVE THAT PROBING WITH BULGARIAN OFFICIALS WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT KEEPING US CURRENT ON PROTEST CAMPAIGN.
HERZ

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ESPIONAGE, CAPITAL PUNISHMENT, TRIALS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS, EXECUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SOFIA00952
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740150-0151
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740656/aaaabvpw.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 121742
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <08 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BULGARIAN ESPIONAGE CASE
TAGS: PINS, BU, (SHPETER, HENRICH NATHAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005